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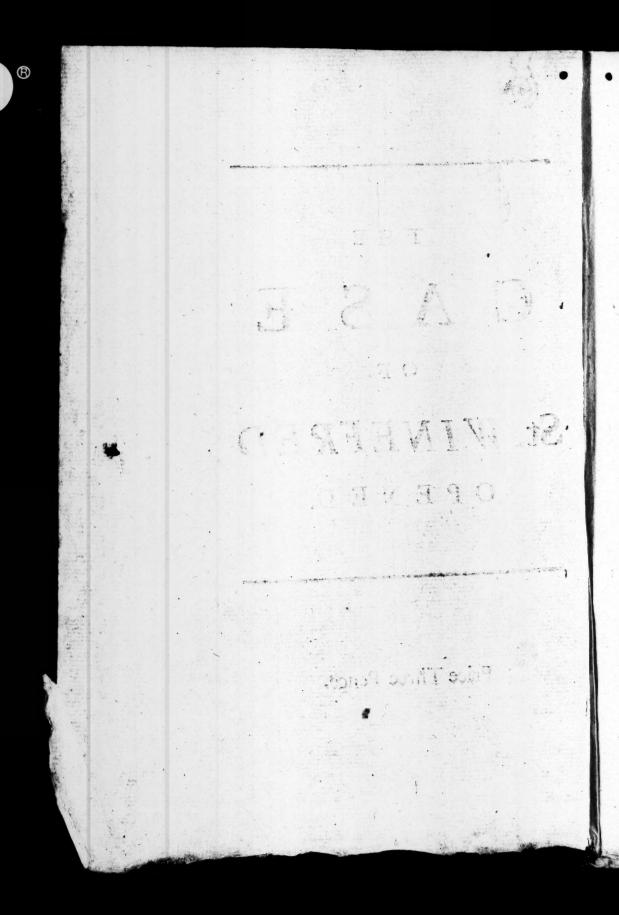
CASE

OF

St. WINEFRED

OPENED.

Price Three Pence.



CASE

OF

St. WINEFRED OPEN'D;

OR,

An unanswerable Consutation of St.Winefred's Life, the Bishop's Historical Observations, the Examiner, and the Guardian on the same Subject.

Wherein is proved,

That these several Treatises were written by the same Hand.

By Dr. Bernardine Bambouzelberg.

Plautus, Amphit. Quid nunc? vincone argumentis te non esse Sosiam?

LONDON:

Printed for John Morphew, near Stationers Hall. 1713.

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St. WINEFRED OPEN'D;

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Unanswerable Confutation

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St. Winefred's Life, the Bishop's Historical Observations, the Examiner, and the Guardian on the same Subject.

A S there is no Undertaking more useful and generous, than an Endeavour to open the Eyes of Mankind, and unravel the Schemes of Impostors; it is the Design

Design of this Paper to discover the Artifices of a certain Author, who; like a true Proteus in Iniquity, hath lately appeared in various Forms of Delusion; and that so successfully, as not to give the least shadow of Suspicion.

What I here undertake is, to demonstrate to all unprejudiced Readers, that the Life of St. Winefred, which is generally supposed to be written by a Popish Priest; the Historical Observations upon it, believed to be pen'd by a Protestant Bishop; the Animadversions on those Observations, thought to be the Examiner's; and the Reflections on those Animadversions, in the Guardian; that all these, I say, were the Production of the same Brain. And after this I shall endeavour to hint, what Person it is who hath thus imposed upon the World.

To act in this Proceeding as a Man of Honour, in the fairest and most open Manner, I have set my Name Name to my Piece. This an Author of Candour ought ever to do, as Mr. Steele justly observes in his late Letter to Ironside: The same Judicious Author also very pertinently remarks at the Conclusion of the Tatlers, how unsair a Practice it is to write in a Mask.

I know I shall by this means give Occasion to some small Wits, who malevolently delight in Raillery, to sport themselves with my Name; and probably my very Profession will give certain Wags the Opportunity of saying, that I have put the Dostor upon them; yet the Love of Truth hath overcome all Considerations of this nature. I hope I shall never degenerate from my Family, the Bambouzelbergs, having in all Ages, above all others, protessed an uncommon Zeal for Truth, and a violent Aversion to all Imposture.

In the first Place it is necessary to premise some account of the Artifice of Modern Writers, whose frequent **®**

quent Practice it is to write Panegyric upon, and Raillery against themselves, for the more easy attaining and establishing the Character of Men of Letters. I think I am doing Service to Mankind. when I publish this Sheer on purpose to undeceive them in a Particular which the most eminent Writers are guilty of. To instance in the Spectator and Guardian: if one of the Society translates a Play, 'tis immediately cry'd all the Town over for an Original: Another writes an Epilogue, and the next Day prints a Paper in praise of it. They as frequently fill Papers with Quotations from their own Works, as if they were from other Authors: as they do with Transcriptions from other Authors, as if they were their own. Mankind hath been no lefs amused by their Raillery on each other, than their Encomiums: The Short Face hath been feveral times under Censure: If a Man is ander Size, a single Paper will not suffice to ridicule himself, and those of his Stature.

Stature. A young Fellow among them cannot want the Happiness of an University Education, but he will immediately clap in a Parenthesis, some where or other, on Purpose to publish it.

As for the Writing of Arguments Pro and Con, there is scarce ever a Pamphlet printed, but the Bookfeller bargains at the fame time with the Author for an Answer to it; this makes the Piece appear of Weight and Confequence, and the World is hereby induc'd to think well of it, as having deserved a Reply. As no Man is faid to be a compleat Knight Errant without a Squire, to there can be no compleat Poet without a Critick to attend him; nor is any Author fo miserable but he may maintain a Critic out of him, as no Beggar is fo poor but he keeps a Cur upon his Scraps.

Above all others, the Writers of Disputations continually serve themselves of this Proceeding; all their Labours are buried in Oblivion, if they have not Confuters ready to put the World in Mind of their Performances by a modest Reply, Animadversions, Remarks, or the like.

About a Year fince, a certain Wag of a Protestant, under the Character of a Papist, published a Treatise, which he call'd the Life of St. Winefred; wherein he pretended to give an Account of that Romish Saint; the Authorities he alledg'd, he very well knew, amounted to nothing; and it was his Intent at the Bottom, to shew how little Credit was to be given to the groundless Traditions of those holy People in general: To this End, he on purpose maintain'd very weakly the Cause of one of the most standard English Saints in the whole Calendar; thefe kind of Legends being too abfurdly miraculous to gain Credit with Men of Sense, such as is the Author of St. Winefred's Life: But as sometimes Ridicule will pass upon very grave and pious Christian Readers for

for good Earnest; our Author, to his no small Mortification, found himself interpreted in this Manner; and the Treatise only served to encrease the Number of St. Winefred's Votaries, infomuch that the next Season, her Well was troubled more than ever: He was therefore forc'd to have Recourse to the old Stratagem, and (to perform his original Contract with the Bookseller) reprinted the Book with a smart Confutation annex'd to it: To give this Answer of his an Air of greater Importance, he assumes the Person of an eminent Ecclesiastic.

But now, as nothing is so difficult to be carried on as Imposture, especially when it endeavours to cast a Resection upon the sacred Function, (Providence generally so ordering it in favour to Mankind, that some little Particularity or other, points out the Deluder through all his Disguises) behold our Author in this Light, who not considering the Character he wrote in, frequently re-B 2 lapsed

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lapsed into Levities which we can never suppose could flow from the Pen of a Prelate, whose Business it is not to quibble with the Imagination, but convince the Understand-Behold him, I fay, Courteous Reader! running into fo great an Abfurdity, as even in this reverend and facred Character to talk of Writing Answers to Guy of Warwick, the Seven Champions, and the like; and after all this, can'ft thou believe him a Bishop? without being as utterly forgetful of Reason as himself, when he stumbled into this unguarded Period; which made the whole Piece appear no other than a Design to ridicule a worthy Son of the Church.

It was excellently observed by John Gower, of these unhallowed Impostors.

If Layman lewde malqueth in Pummerie,

He thall be thent; in him 'tis Ailang.

If Frere, 02 Priest, 03 Ponke, 02 Ponke, 02

It is thilke Trade, and every Deale becometh.

There are also some Verses to this Effect, which I have translated out of that Poem which Ovid wrote in the Gætic Tongue, during his Residence at Pontus, (now call'd Bender, and no less famous for the Residence of the King of Sweden.)

Lalla madon osoto drasen duritete Bala,

Ordraph dicroopin, rondize philta

Sisbolet acconitor mompreth alasombrete Dazen,

Dozeto Nikaken, Nika, Corinna,

Sooner

Sooner shall Priests controul their liq'rish Tast,

And wish each Sacrifice may be the last:

Sooner shall Priests the sacred Mask remove,

Than I forget my kind Corinna's Love.

One would think from these Quotations, that a Priest can be guilty of Deceit: But as for this worthy Prelate, whose Name has been usurped by the foremention'd Author; he hath a just Sense of this crying Sin of Imposture, and is perfectly of the Sentiment of Cato, as he expresses it just before he describes the Lybian Serpents.

On easy Faith my Words shall ne'er impose;

The Soul of Cato knows not to deceive.

Here

Here then, our Author was a fecond time disappointed; and being thoroughly convinc'd how ill he had personated a Man in religious Orders; like a folitary Gamester, who, to keep his Hand in Play, plays right Hand against left : He drew his Pen a third time, and fell foul on his own Labours, in the Form of the Examiner; wherein he still supposes that Treatise to be the Work of an Ecclefiaftic, and lays about him with some Wit and Pleafantry. He had also a Politick End in this third Feint of his, which very well fuited with the Part he was now to play, that of the Examiner. This was to weaken the worthy Bishop's Interest in the ensuing Elections: For it is manifest, that had it been believ'd by the Inhabitants of the Countries adjacent to Holy Well, that this Book was published even with the Approbation of their Diocesan, they would never heartily efpoule the Party of a Person who had made fuch a Step towards impoveR

impoverishing the County, by endeavouring (as this Author owns) to draw away such a Croud of Votaries, who spent their Substance in those Parts out of an abundant Zeal to Devotion.

By this Time there were some few in the World who had heard of this learned Dispute; and our Author, to give the utmost Play to his Work, and insure the Success of it, takes upon him the Character of the Guardian, and writes an Answer to his own Examiner, but in so injudicious and empty a Manner, that no Perfon, who is conversant in the Writings of the Guardian, would imagine he could pen so frivolous a Piece. By this time, the Author had performed his full Contract with the Bookseller; they had both gain'd their Ends, and the Observations upon St. Winefred's Life had got into a Second Edition.

Having now fully shown, that these four above-mention'd Pieces were were pen'd by the same Hand; I come to the second Point proposed, that is, to hint at the Person by whom the Publick hath been so grosly imposed upon.

He is one who had formerly found by Experience the Advantages of assuming a Clergy-man's Character, which was in the following Manner:

An eminent Son of the Church had published certain Prophecies, which were translated into several Languages; They had the Honour to be burned by the Hands of the common Executioner in Portugal; the States were in dreadful Apprehensions of a Monarchy; and Lewis le Grand fummoned together all his Physicians upon the Subject of this important Treatife: In short, what European Monarch was there, that did not tremble at the Name of Bickerstaff? Under this Name did this very Person bambouzle the World with some hundreds of Lucubra Θ

cubrations after which tis well known, he continued to impose upon the Town in a yet more improbable Character, of a Man who faid Nothing, and told all things. these Speculations, as he called them, he appeared also in the shape of a Country Knight on Lawyer, a Merchant, and a Man of Arms; then what Form may we not expect to fee him in next? Behold, Reader, the venerable Nestor Ironside seated at the Tea-Table amidft his Male and Female Wards: Doft thou not read daily Precautions every Morning? from whence doft thou think they proceed? in very truth, I anfwer, from this fame Bambouzeler. In his two-penny Volume he is grown a perfect Bylaneus, with a great many Hands, and but one Head: He hath an Oxford, and a Cambridge Hand; a Court Hand and a City Hand; a Divine Hand and a Prophane Hand; a true Paftoral Hand, and a Hand Something better; fometimes an Eminent Hand and often a Hand which he harh lately

lately taken care to disown, a Nonsensical Hand. Upon the whole matter, we find it hath been the constant Artifice of this Author, above all others, to appear in a sictitious Character. And if we impartially consider both the sinister End and wretched Performance of this whole Work, we can so reasonably six it on no Man, as on that Person, who hath publickly declared, that he is sometimes dull by Design.

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Advertisement,

For the Publick Good.

Hereas this same Nestor Ironside hath lately publish'd to the World, that no Person can write Papers worth Two-pence but those of his Generation; I am obliged in Justice to my Ancestors and my self, to acquaint the publick, that the Original Isaac Bickerstaff himself, from whom the faid Neftor pretends to derive his Right, was of the Family of the Bambouzelbergs; this being beyond all Contradiction, we refolve forthwith to affert our legal and ancient Property; and do hereby promise, within a Fort-night, to filence this infolent Pretender, and all his Adherents, for ever.

FINIS.

Postscript,

HE Bookseller complaining that a Page or Two were left vacant, I shall supply them with a Catalogue of Books already Published by those of the Family of the Bambouzelbergs, which are necessary to be perused by such curious Persons, as intend to be conversant in my future Productions.

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